

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia®

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February 27, 2009

The Honorable Frank LoBiondo
2427 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman LoBiondo:

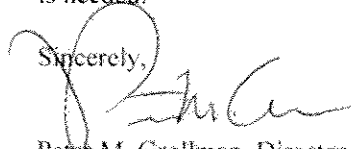
Thank you for providing The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) with an opportunity to submit a Fiscal Year 2010 appropriations request for your consideration and support. You have been a tremendous advocate on behalf of CHOP and the children we serve at our Atlantic County Specialty Care Center in Mays Landing, and we are very grateful for your efforts to secure \$95,000 for our Children's Intensive Emotional and Behavioral Program (CIEBP) Program in the Fiscal Year 2009 Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill.


This program serves, with measurable success, children ages 5-12 with severe emotional and behavioral disorders in the Atlantic, Cape May and Southern Ocean Counties. In an effort to partner with local school districts, we are seeking \$100,000 to create a Behavioral Training Series Initiative which would provide a broad range of teaching services to school officials so that they may be better prepared to address the depth and breadth of the behavior problems. We expect this initiative will help reduce costs, increase teacher proficiency and teach a broader range of children.

CHOP's CIEBP Program is consistent with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Center for Mental Health Services premise that the needs of children, adolescents, and their families can be met within their home, school, and community environments and principles of child-centered, family-driven, strength-based, and culturally competent care. Support from the federal government will help ensure the viability of these programs as an alternative to more costly and disruptive in-patient, residential or foster or out of district school placements. Accordingly, these children can lead productive lives in their home, school and communities – resulting in a reduction in youth violence and greater success in school and careers.

Please know that you an open invitation to visit our Atlantic County Specialty Care Center so that you may see the good work being done to serve children that are most in need. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this request. Please call me at 267-426-6480 if any additional information is needed.

Sincerely,


Peter M. Grollman, Director
Government Affairs, Community Relations & Advocacy

 The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
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